



News and Events in the 5th Grade

April 23, 2012

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Important Dates

April 25	Unit 8 Math Test
April 26	Middle School Math Event
May 2	Brooks Middle School Orientation 7:00-8:30pm.
May 9	Field Trip to Robert Crown
May 14	Transition Picnic at Taylor Park
May 16 & 23	MAP Testing
May 17	Social Studies Interview Project Due
May 30	Pool Outing

Dear Families,

Message from Brooks

The 6th Grade Orientation has been rescheduled to Wednesday, May 2, from 7-8:30 p.m.

PARENTS ONLY

District 97, with input from certified staff at both middle schools, has begun a process that will result in fostering world-class middle schools. This district's vision of our preferred future will result in changes for both our academic and elective programs to develop best practices about educating students. The results of this process will effect the information we share with families at our 6th Grade Orientation.

Student Council Food Drive for the OPRF Food Pantry

The Holmes Student Council is conducting a food drive to benefit the Oak Park Food Pantry. The final day to bring in a donation is this Tuesday. Please send in nonperishable food items or a monetary donation with your child.

Author Visit

Author Michael Buckley will be visiting us to talk about the writing process, inspiration, and his books (*The Sisters Grimm* and *NERDS* series) on April 30. If your child would like a signed copy of one of his books, please download the order form from the digital backpack and return it to school by Wednesday.

Art - Thank you to all the parents who helped make 5th grade lock-in mural a success! The doors came out great and will be a permanent artwork in the Media Center. See <http://www.owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com/> for pictures.

Music - Music Share Day is coming! Your child is going to have a music share day in music class on Monday the 16th (5P and 5K) or Tuesday the 17th (5M). This means that he or she will be able to sing a song for the class, bring in an instrument to play or share, bring in a song to share or dance to, or bring in a song to play or the school piano. Students are not required to participate, but I hope to hear a lot of beautiful music in the next few days!

Spanish - In Spanish we are working on ordering food in a restaurant. Students are working in groups to create a skit that includes waiter/waitresses, managers, and diners. We will start

performing the role playing this week.

Library - Information can be found on the Holmes Library page on our school website, <http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/>.

Physical Education - Please see Mr. Williams' link (www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com) for information.



Reading/Literature TREASURES

On Monday and Tuesday of this week, we will read a story titled Bravo Tavo! The comprehension focus for this story is identify problem and solution.

SHAKESPEARE

This week, classes will continue to read through and stage the Shakespeare plays scene by scene. They will begin planning what props, set, costumes and makeup they will need to enhance the story.

LITERATURE CIRCLES

Students will have some time during workshop this week to read their assigned pages and complete their quality questions/role sheets. If students are unable to complete these in class, they may need to finish it at home. The next Literature Circle discussion is on Wednesday, April 25th.

Language Arts

Writing Focus: Students will finish drafting and revising their "Where I'm From" poems this week. Students will begin creating their Microsoft Photo Story to go along with their poems on Tuesday. If students wish to bring photographs to add to their photo story, they must save them onto a flash drive, and bring them to class with them on Tuesday, April 24th.

Grammar Focus: The grammar skill for this week is adverbs.

Math

The unit test will be this **Wednesday, April 25**. The test will cover addition and subtraction of mixed numbers, as well as multiplication of fractions and mixed numbers. We will review in class on Tuesday.

Science

On May 15, we will be dissecting sheep eyeballs. If you would like to help out with that dissection, please let Ms. Manuel know. Class times are 5K: 10:45 - 11:25, 5P: 1:30 - 2:10 and 5M: 2:10 - 2:50. This week, we continue learning about body systems and we will be focusing on the digestive system.

Students have chosen a body system to study for the Human Body project. Students will conduct research, write a brief research paper and create a glog. Project requirements are posted on the Science page of the 5th grade wiki. Although students will have some in-class time to work on the projects, they will be required to complete the majority of the project at home.

During the week of May 7, (two weeks from today), we will spend a few days learning about puberty and the reproductive system. We will cover both the male and female reproductive systems. On Wednesday, May 9, we will take a field trip to the Robert Crown Center to learn about changes that happen to the body during puberty. Boys and girls will be in separate groups at the Robert Crown Center. On Thursday, following the field trip, we will again split the boys and girls into two groups so that students may ask questions they may have about the changes their bodies are going through. If you have any questions or concerns about the material we will be covering, please contact Ms. Manuel.

Social Studies

We are currently exploring westward expansion from the perspective of both the settlers and Native Americans. To do this effectively, we are reviewing primary source documents to hear the

voices of people who actually lived the experience. Last week, students were assigned an interview project that is due Thursday, May 17. Please plan ahead, as this project will require identifying an interview subject and then conducting the interview. Students may videotape the interview, but it is not required.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

We're on the Web!

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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